

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 3029]****Bureau of Political Military Affairs;
Imposition of Missile Proliferation
Sanctions Against Entities in the
Middle East, Including a Ban on
Certain U.S. Government Procurement****AGENCY:** State.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Government has determined that certain entities in the Middle East have engaged in missile technology proliferation activities that require imposition of sanctions pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, and the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (as carried out under Executive Order 12424 of August 19, 1994).

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 23, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For General Information: Vann H. Van Diepen, Office of Chemical, Biological and Missile Nonproliferation, Bureau of Nonproliferation, Department of State (202-647-1142). For information on U.S. procurement bans: Gladys Gines, Office of the Procurement Executive, Department of State (703-516-1691).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 73(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2797b(a)(1)), Section 11B(b)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended, (50 U.S.C. app. 2401b(b)(1)), as carried out under Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994 (hereinafter cited as the "Export Administration Act of 1979"), and Executive Order 12851 of June 11, 1993, the United States Government has determined that the following foreign persons, currently operating in the Middle East region, have engaged in missile technology proliferation activities that require the imposition of the sanctions described in Sections 73(a)(2)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2797b(a)(2)(A)) and Sections 11B(b)(1)(B)(i) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. app. 2410b(b)(1)(B)(i)) on these entities, their subunits and successors, effective March 23, 1999:

1. Arab British Dynamics (ABD);
2. Helwan Machinery and Equipment Company; and
3. Kader Factory for Developed Industries.

Accordingly, the following sanctions are being imposed on these entities:

(A) Licenses for export to the entities described above of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) equipment or technology controlled pursuant to the Export Administration Act of 1979 will be denied for two years;

(B) Licenses for export to the entities described above of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) equipment or technology controlled pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act will be denied for two years; and

(C) No United States Government contracts relating to MTCR-controlled equipment and technology, and involving the entities described above, will be entered into for two years.

With respect to items controlled pursuant to the Export Administration Act of 1979, the export sanction only applies to exports made pursuant to individual export licenses.

These measures shall be implemented by the responsible agencies as provided in Executive Order 12851 of June 11, 1993.

Dated: April 8, 1999.

Eric D. Newsom,

Assistant Secretary of State for Political Military Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-9576 Filed 4-15-99; 8:45 am]

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVES****Generalized System of Preferences
(GSP); Solicitation of Public
Comments Relating to the
Reinstatement of Mauritania**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice and solicitation of public comment with respect to the eligibility of the Mauritania for the GSP program.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the solicitation of comments related to the reinstatement of Mauritania as a beneficiary developing country under the GSP program. Comments should be submitted by May 17, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Room 518, Washington, D.C. 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395-6971.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Mauritania has requested that it be reinstated as an eligible country under the GSP program. Mauritania was suspended on August 1, 1993 after a review by the Trade Policy Staff Committee determined that it did not provide for the right of association nor prohibit forced or compulsory labor.

Interested parties are invited to submit comments regarding the eligibility of Mauritania for redesignation as a GSP beneficiary developing country. Submission of comments must be made in English in

14 copies to the Chairman of the GSP Subcommittee, Trade Policy Staff Committee, and be received in Room 518 at 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20508, no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 1999. Except for submissions granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6, information and comments submitted regarding Mauritania will be subject to public inspection by appointment with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room. For an appointment, please call Ms. Brenda Webb at 202/395-6186. If the document contains business confidential information, 14 copies of a nonconfidential version of the submission along with 14 copies of the confidential version must be submitted. In addition, the submission should be clearly marked "confidential" at the top and bottom of each page of the document. The version which does not contain business confidential information (the public version) should also be clearly marked at the top and bottom of each page (either "public version" or "non-confidential").

Frederick L. Montgomery,

Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE****Implementation of Tariff-Rate Quota for
Imports of Beef**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice that USTR has determined that New Zealand, pursuant to its request, is no longer a participating country for purposes of the export certification program for imports of beef under the tariff-rate quota.

DATES: The action is effective May 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Early, Senior Policy Advisor for Agricultural Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20508; telephone: (202) 395-9615.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States maintains a tariff-rate quota on imports of beef as part of its implementation of the *Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization*. The in-quota quantity of that tariff-rate quota is allocated in part among a number of countries. As part of